HCS SS SCS SB 657 -- MOTOR VEHICLES

IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICES (Section 302.441, RSM0)

This bill specifies that if a person is required to have an ignition interlock device installed on his or her vehicle, he or she may apply to the court for an employment exemption variance to allow him or her to drive an employer-owned vehicle not equipped with an ignition interlock device for employment purposes only. The bill prohibits this exemption from being granted to a person who is self-employed or who wholly or partially owns an entity that owns an employer-owned vehicle.

Any person granted an employment exemption variance under these provisions is prohibited from driving, operating, or being in physical control of an employer-owned vehicle used for transporting children under 18 years of age or vulnerable persons, or an employer-owned vehicle for personal use.

PETROLEUM STORAGE TANK INSURANCE FUND (Sections 319.114 and 414.036)

The bill specifies that except in cases of fraud or misrepresentation on the application for coverage, an owner or operator of an underground storage tank may not be denied insurance benefits by the Petroleum Storage Tank Insurance Fund or other provider of financial responsibility solely because the owner or operator's claim comes from a release of a regulated petroleum substance deemed incompatible with the storage tank system.

MOTOR FUEL INSPECTION FEE (Section 414.082)

Currently, the fee for the inspection of certain motor fuels shall not be less than 1.5 cents per barrel and shall not exceed 2.5 cents per barrel. This bill specifies that the per barrel fee may not exceed 4 cents per barrel from 2017 to 2021, and may not exceed 5 cents per barrel from 2022 and thereafter.

MOTOR FUEL LIABILITY (Section 414.255)

Any refiner, supplier, wholesaler, distributor, retailer, or other vendor of motor fuel that contains or is blended with any amount of ethanol, biodiesel, or other renewable fuel that complies with labeling and motor fuel quality laws may not be liable for any damages related to a customer's purchase of motor fuel from the vendor as long as the selection of motor fuel was made by the customer and not the vendor. Motor fuel that contains or is blended with a renewable fuel may not be considered a defective product if the fuel complies with motor fuel quality laws.

No motor vehicle manufacturer, motor vehicle dealer or manufacturer or dealer of internal combustion engines or products powered by an internal combustion engine, except in cases of fraud or misrepresentation, is liable for property damages related to customer's purchase of motor fuel containing or blended with any amount of ethanol, biodiesel, or other renewable fuel or biofuel if the selection and purchase of the fuel was made by the customer and does not comply with the fuel recommendations in the owner manual.